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DEPARTMENT OF ZOÖLOGY

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Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University Medical School
Stanford, California

Dear Josh:

The American Society of Cell Biology, which as you may know seems to be flourishing in its second year with a membership of about two thousand, is going through the throes of deciding publication policy. I am, somewhat unfortunately, chairman of a committee to decide whether we should complicate the biological literature with yet another journal.

It is clearly time that some organizations do some hard thinking on the matter of current dissemination of research findings and add a little creativity to problems of integration of scientific data. Most of our society council seems rather conservative, and I am anxious to confront them with a few new ideas that they can at least argue about. Heinz Herrmann mentioned in a recent letter that you have definite ideas about how to cope with the information explosion. If any of these might be appropriate to share with our committee, I would appreciate hearing them.

I hope that the biological exploration of outer space is still continuing. With kindest regards.

Cordially,



Hewson Swift

jw